

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST ASSEMBLY.

SEVENTH SESSION.

Friday, the 15th November 1935/29th Thulam 1111.

The Assembly met again in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven of the clock, the President presiding.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Landed property statements.

49. *MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any Government order requiring Government officers to furnish annually a statement regarding landed properties owned by them ; and

(b) whether they conduct confidential enquiries as to the assets of the officers in their service ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) :

(a) The member is referred to Notification Dis. No. 544/21/Rev., dated 19-5-21, published at page 204, Part I, Second Supplement to the Land Revenue Manual, Vol. II.

(b) No.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*) : Sir,——

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : I wish to submit a point for the ruling of the Chair. I want to know whether it is open to the Government to answer a question by asking the interpellator to refer to a document which is not supplied to him but which is handy and accessible to the Government member.

PRESIDENT : I cannot say anything on an abstract proposition like that unless and until particular cases are brought to my notice.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : In this interpellation, the Government member has asked the interpellator to refer to a document which has not been furnished to the non-official members of this House.

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PRESIDENT : The general Parliamentary rule is that reference is permissible, in answers, to those Government publications which have been made available to the members of the House individually or have been supplied for their information and placed in the library of the House. If this particular publication is in the library of the House, the answer is perfectly right. But if it is not in the library of the House, then the answer is not correct.

MR S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (Chirayinkil II) : May I know whether any list showing the properties possessed by Government officers is being maintained by Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (Chief Secretary to Government) : Statements are received every year and preserved in the Huzur Office.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (Chirayinkil II) : What is the purpose of getting these statements?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (Chief Secretary to Government) : To see whether the officers possess more properties than they could have purchased by legitimate means.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (Chirayinkil II) : May I know whether the Government have found at any time any officer possessed of properties beyond his capacity?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (Chief Secretary to Government) : Not in recent times. I do not know what took place in earlier days.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (Chirayinkil II) : May I know whether Government have found at any time a Government officer possessing properties beyond his capacity?

PRESIDENT : "At any time" is rather very vague. You must specify the period so that the Government member may give you an answer. You may say ten years or fifteen years.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (Chirayinkil II) : May I know whether any Government officer has been found to possess properties beyond his capacity, during the last ten years?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (Chief Secretary to Government) : I claim notice.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (Chirayinkil I) : May I know whether Government officers are allowed to follow independent occupations?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (Chief Secretary to Government) : No

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (Chirayinkil I) : May I know whether there are any Government officers who are following such independent avocations?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (Chief Secretary to Government) : None; except the Sirkar Vakils, if Sirkar Vakils are to be treated as Government servants and the Medical Officers, I do not think there is any other officer following independent professions.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know whether the Government accept the statements sent up by the officers as true on their face or whether the Government make independent enquiries?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government examine these statements; and if they find that there is any suspicion that an officer owns properties which he could not have legitimately earned, then they make enquiries. Otherwise they do not.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I ask whether the members of the Legislature will be supplied with the Land Revenue Manual?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The old edition of the Manual is getting out of stock and it is being revised. When the revised edition is printed, the question of supplying copies to all the members of the House will be considered.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): In the absence of the book, may I know how it is stated in the answer to part (a) that the member is referred to a notification published at page 204, Part I, Second Supplement to the Land Revenue Manual?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The volume is available in the Legislative Library.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): I wish to know whether it is made available to the members of the Legislature.

PRESIDENT: The Chair has already ruled that, if any publication is available in the Library of the House, the answer is relevant.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether there is any means open to Government for ascertaining the income of medical officers?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They also send up property statements.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether Government servants, who are in the Medical Department, are allowed to have private practice?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, they are.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether the statement of their income also shows the income they derive from private practice?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No.

May I suggest, Sir, that questions Nos. 64 and 70 in the agenda which are practically identical to the present question, may be taken up now?

PRESIDENT: They will be taken up immediately. Question No 64.